IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

Todd M. Bjork et al.

Appln. No.:

10/681,480

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October 8, 2003

For

SURGICAL CLAMP

Docket No.:

M81.12-0065



Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450,

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.